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**Subject:** Daily Maverick media query: PCP response to IPID statistical manipulation and cover-up of police criminality?  
**Date:** October 8, 2019 at 6:19 AM  
**To:** tjoemat-pettersson@parliament.gov.za  
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Dear Ms Joemat-Pettersson,

Daneel here, I am journalist and I'm writing a follow-up story on statistical manipulation at the IPID for Daily Maverick, GroundUp and [Viewfinder](#) (a new accountability platform unit in SA).

Below, I summarise the findings of our [first story](#) published last night, followed by three questions.

I have cc'd your colleagues at the PCP. If the committee would like to respond to this query, I would really appreciate if you could do so before 12:00 noon on Wednesday, 9 October 2019.

#### **Finding one: IPID manipulated performance statistics, and misled the PCP / SA public**

According to whistle-blower reports going back to 2012, cases of police criminality were prematurely "closed" or "completed" at the IPID in a bid to clear them from the workload or to inflate performance statistics. These performance statistics (i.e. the number of 'Decision Ready' cases finalized each year) are reported in IPID's annual report and presented to Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Policing around early October of each year.

The whistle-blower reports and our analysis of IPID's data would imply that statistics were manipulated on a large scale. Behind these statistics, in the words of one whistleblower, are "victims" of police brutality "denied justice".

You may read a summary of Viewfinder's findings, and you may access a list linking to all the original whistleblower reports, via [this article](#) on Daily Maverick.

Because IPID accounts to Parliament, the implication is that IPID has for years misled the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Police in reporting "closure" and "decision ready" performance statistics.

#### **Finding two: IPID is underfunded and cannot handle its workload**

Our analysis has also shown that IPID's inability to handle its massive case load is underpinned by an inadequate budget allotment via a vote which Parliament approves each year. We unpack the implications of this in the article published yesterday.

One of the former IPID insider's interviewed for our story said:

"I'm not saying that IPID cannot be criticised. But this is the real question: is there the will within our government to hold criminality in the police service accountable? I don't believe that there is. IPID was set up to fail from the beginning. In 2012 (following the implementation of the IPID Act), we were given a stronger mandate to investigate the police, but the resources and support needed to do this never followed."

#### **Questions**

- What is the PCP's position on the finding that statistics were manipulated at the IPID, misleading the PCP?
- What is the PCP's position on the finding that IPID has been systematically underfunded, and that this has hampered its ability to keep criminality in the police service in check?
- What course of action, if any, would the PCP propose in response to the above findings?

#### **My deadline**

My deadline for this reporting is Wednesday afternoon. I'd appreciate if the PCP endeavours to send a response by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, 9 October 2019

Best,

Daneel  
 Viewfinder: Founder

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